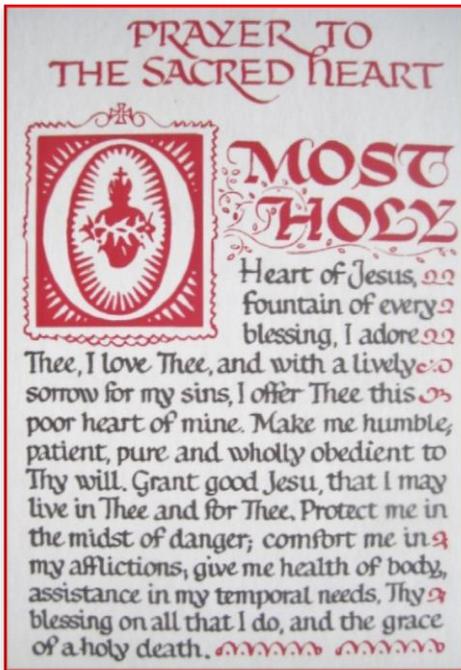


TYBURN NEWSLETTER

TYBURN MONASTERY COR JESU FONS VITAE, 74 DODS RD. NGAKURU RDI, ROTORUA 3077

SACRED HEART 2018



Dear Friends of Tyburn Monastery

We are again approaching the Feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. It is of course the titular feast of our Congregation which is dedicated to the worship of the Holy Trinity, through the Heart of Jesus. We remember the love of our Heavenly Father in giving us His only Son, and the love of Christ who was obedient unto death, even death on a Cross.

As I write this newsletter we have just received the news that Rev. Fr Yvan Sergy, priest of the Hamilton diocese, and one of the 1st Confessors of this community, has passed to his heavenly reward. All who know him have been deeply moved by his acceptance of the Motor Neurone disease which caused increasing debility until his death today. He used to send a regular email to his friends, relating his thoughts and his situation. At the time of his last email, he suspected that he would not be able to write again and one of his

thoughts was about the difference between freedom and obedience. He wrote “..for me, obedience with love is the most wonderful thing and gives results even stronger and deeper than freedom. For me, during all my vocation since my ordination, I have obeyed with love and confidence by giving myself completely to the Lord. Today in this situation of mortal disease, I do not stop obeying with love and confidence in the Lord by following him as closely as possible.” It is surely the love that Fr. Yvan had for Christ, which gave him the ability to suffer with joy: “I am always happy and deeply at peace...” And we know that the loving Heart of Christ was ever upholding him in his sufferings.



His last paragraph was about his death: “In the meantime, please, do not be sad, but in peace and trust in the Lord, otherwise you will not be able to receive His special grace, which I pray all the time for you. Remember, death is not an end, but a journey to heaven, to an eternal joy that must already make us happy, as during the Easter Season.” To which we can only reply ‘Amen Alleluia’. May he rest in peace.



Now that we are nearly finishing the Autumn season and approaching Winter, the heat and tropical storms of the beginning of the year seem only a far off memory. A few trees on our property were felled by the wind and rain of these storms and large branches twice blocked our driveway for a time. Our good chaplain of the time, Rev Fr Santey attempted to remove the branches with an axe but it was slow work and our neighbours, like good Samaritans, came to the rescue with a more efficient chainsaw. We had a number of floods in the monastery and even fire alarms going off in the middle of the night due to rain

coming in the roof and down through the alarms! We thank God that no one was hurt by the falling branches and we now have a new supply of wood for the guesthouse fire. The rain was good for the orchard and we harvested many fruits despite regular raids by the Pukekos, of which we have a booming population around the ponds in front of and behind the monastery.



During March we had a number of visitors, beginning with the annual visit of students from John Paul College. They come in groups of 60 over three days and no doubt enjoy the outing. The Lord gave them a few challenges this year as the weather one day was very wet, and on another day Arataki Honey were tending the hives so the bees were temporarily homeless and congregated in their thousands around the monastery grounds where the children were having a picnic! Then on the 10th we welcomed the Vintage Car Rally. It was a pleasure to meet these people and they all seemed to be enjoying their scenic drive around the area marked for their rally. We also were fascinated to see their gorgeous and extraordinary vehicles.

After a beautiful and joyous Easter we began our farewells as Sr M. Cecilia was assigned to our monastery in Bombay, while Sr Anastasia has returned to this monastery. Then our chaplain, Rev. Fr Santey left to return to his demanding work in Polytech colleges in Kenya. We pray for his success and his safety in that country which has many needs. In the meantime we have not been left orphans as our good Bishop and the priests of the diocese are generously taking turns in coming to celebrate the Holy Mass in our monastery. We are very grateful to only rarely miss the daily Mass and continue to pray that the Lord send us a permanent chaplain, which will lighten the load of the visiting priests.



May the 4th was the beginning of the historic first pilgrimage to the places related to our Mother Foundress. People of different countries participated in this pilgrimage and Fr John Roberts of New Zealand was invited to lead it. It began at Tyburn Convent London, and passed through many religious sites in France connected with the Servant of God, Marie Adele Garnier. A chapel has been constructed in the former house of our Foundress and it was finished and furnished by the hard work of our Mothers just in time for the visit of the pilgrims. The first Mass was celebrated with the pilgrims on the 15th of May and was a moving event. Thomas Henry was one of the organizers of the pilgrimage and he wrote: "It is a pilgrimage with a common cause that has brought us all together from different parts of the world. ... When we return to whichever part of the world we come from, we shall be taking our memories back with us. This pilgrimage will have created us, the Tyburn Pilgrims. I hope and pray that as we reflect on the life and virtue of Mother Marie Adèle Garnier during the next twelve days, our minds and hearts will be open, as were hers, making us better servants of God than before we came on this pilgrimage."

We wish you all every grace and blessing on the Solemnity of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. The Holy Mass that day will be offered for the intentions of all our friends and benefactors and we thank you most sincerely for your support and interest in our life of prayer,

The Tyburn Nuns